Mr. President: You are not bound to answer. Only relevant questions need be answered. They are asking questions about what is happening in Chandrie & Co.

KONATH RIVER—FLOODS IN—DAMAGE TO CROPS

215. Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether there were complaints from people in Mulanthuruthy, Amballur and the neighbouring villages that the crops on either side of the Konath river were damaged on account of floods at the beginning of the monsoon in 1116;

(*b*) how many days after the crops were flooded, the Puthotta bund was opened and water let out;

(*c*) whether Government think it necessary to make better arrangements to protect the lands mentioned in question No. (*a*) from such floods in future;

(*d*) whether there were complaints from owners of lands near the bund that when the bund was put in 1116, nothing was done to protect those lands from being damaged by the pressure of water?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) There was an interval of about one week between the complete removal of the bund and the observation of high water. But this does not mean that no drainage away from the lake was effected. Water was being let out through the drainage channel provided for the purpose.

(*c*) The arrangement now made is very good and answering the purpose and no better arrangement is possible or necessary.

(*d*) There was a complaint from one Sankara Panicker that his bund was breached when the main bund was put up. On enquiry it was found that this was due to his own fault and neglect in not keeping his field bund at this locality in proper strength. Maintenance of his bund was his responsibility, and Government could not do anything towards it.

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